

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**LISTING OF CLAIMS:**

1. (Original) A bumper apparatus comprising a bumper apparatus including a bumper reinforcement extended in a width direction of a vehicle and a bumper stay fixed to a side member on a side of a vehicle body, wherein the bumper stay includes a front wall portion fixed to the bumper reinforcement, a rear wall portion fixed to the side member on the side of the vehicle body, and a plurality of ribs for coupling the two wall portions and the inner and the outer side ribs are provided with an angle of inclination diverging to a front side, the inner side rib includes a projected portion projected to an inner side and a dimension in a width direction of the front wall portion is larger than a dimension in a width direction of the rear wall portion.

2. (Original) The bumper apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein a single one of the projected portion is provided on a side of the bumper reinforcement of inner side rib.

3. (Original) The bumper apparatus according to Claim 2, wherein an opening angle  $\theta_2$  of the projected portion falls in a range of 45° through 120°.

4. (Currently Amended) The bumper apparatus according to Claim 2 or 3, wherein the bumper stay is a pressed product of one sheet of a steel plate and a hollow portion between the respective ribs is opened to a front side or a rear side.

5. (Currently Amended) The bumper apparatus according to Claim 2 ~~or~~ 3, wherein the bumper stay comprises an extruded member of an aluminum based alloy material and three pieces of closed hollow portions thereof are partitioned between the front and the rear wall portions by the ribs.

6. (Original) The bumper apparatus according to Claim 5, wherein a length of the outer side rib is smaller than a length of the inner side rib.